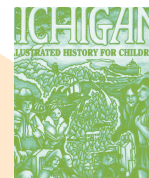


# Access



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## Hey, Hey, Hey! It's LSTA!

By Sheryl Mase, LSTA Library Specialist

It's time to grab a cup of coffee (or other beverage of choice), sit down with your coworkers and collaborate on a project idea for a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. The LSTA competitive grant program for fiscal year 2002 has just been announced. It's not your same old LSTA program, either. There are some exciting changes ahead.

You'll still recognize LSTA, but there are new funding categories, new timeline adjustments and even a new proposal review process. All of these changes have been designed to assist libraries with the application process.

The 2002 funding categories are:

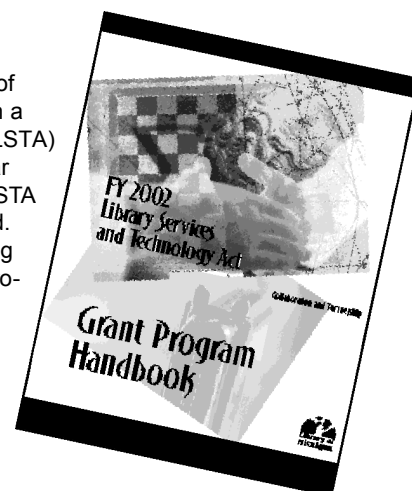
- Library Services to the Underserved (minimum grant award \$5,000)
- Technology and Networking (minimum grant award \$5,000)
- Collaboration and Partnership (minimum grant award \$5,000; 25 percent required local financial match).

The third category is new this year and is designed to help libraries as they pioneer innovative services and work together with other partners to share the knowledge gained from such a partnership. The local financial match of 25 percent is required in this category and although optional in the first two categories, it is strongly encouraged.

Grant proposals are due to the Library of Michigan by June 29, 2001, at 5:00 p.m. Award announcement letters will be sent in October 2001; confirmations and contracts will be mailed after approval of the federal budget, which is expected in January 2002. If your proposal is chosen for funding, you will be required to attend a grant administration workshop in either November or December 2001.

Funds may be spent only after the grant contract has been finalized. The deadline for spending is April 30, 2003; the reimbursement deadline is May 30, 2003, and a final narrative report is due by June 30, 2003.

The Library of Michigan will use a new review process for the 2002 proposals that will involve both the LSTA Advisory Council and peer review teams. The Advisory Council will fill out a brief score sheet that is based solely upon each proposal's abstract. In addition, five peer review teams will be formed, each with five members who will review approximately twenty proposals in their entirety. These individuals will read each proposal on their own and then gather together for a day to complete the scoring by using the Peer Review Score Sheet (included in the 2002 LSTA Grant Guidelines Handbook). Each team will score a different set of twenty proposals. Both the scores from the Advisory Council and the peer review teams will be considered in the final funding decision by the State Librarian.



Continued on page 2



## Notes from the State Librarian



By Christie Pearson-Brandau

As I write this, I have just recently returned from attending the Rural Libraries Conference in Bellaire. What a great conference! There were many interesting sessions to attend and just as importantly, many opportunities to talk with librarians and trustees about mutual interests. One recurring theme in so many of our discussions is the speed of change in the library world. Only a few years ago we thought a fax machine was the latest in technology; now there are so many technological changes we can barely keep up with them. As we have heard many times, *change is the only constant today.*

Here at the Library of Michigan, we've experienced change as we bid farewell to two of our colleagues. Bryon Stitler, formerly the Library's multitype specialist, is the new director of the Northland Library Cooperative in Alpena. Kathleen Menanteaux, who headed up the Michigan Newspaper Project, is now the library director at the Spoon River College in Canton, Illinois. While we're delighted for them as they move forward to meet the challenges they will find in their new positions, we will miss them. At the same time we say goodbye to Bryon and Kathleen, we welcome new coworkers as well. Carol McAllister joined the Library of Michigan on April 30 as the new trainer. One of Carol's job duties will be to help us integrate distance education technology into our training. We hope to offer more of our workshops and training via videoconferencing in the near future. *Change makes us more flexible and adaptive.*

Another change that is possible is the move of the Library of Michigan from the legislative branch of government to the executive branch. The Library of Michigan Board of Trustees has studied the issue of the agency's move, and has issued a statement about the initiative. *Change helps us look at things in new ways.*

All of these events remind me of a quote from Karen Kaiser Clark: "Life is change. Growth is optional. Choose wisely!"

*Christie*

A revised handbook for FY 2002 contains detailed information about submitting an LSTA grant proposal. This handbook and the actual application form are readily available by either visiting the Library of Michigan website at <http://www.libraryofmichigan.org/lsta/lsta.html> or by contacting Beth Wetzel in Business Services at 1-800-479-0021 (Lansing area residents, please call 517-373-4791) or you may email her at [bwetzel@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:bwetzel@libraryofmichigan.org). If you have questions about the LSTA competitive grant program or if you are interested in becoming a peer reviewer, please contact Sheryl Mase, LSTA Library Specialist, at 517-373-4331 or you may email her at [smase@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:smase@libraryofmichigan.org).

## Library of Michigan Board Statement On Reorganization Initiative

By David Tate, Chair  
Library of Michigan Board of Trustees

The Library of Michigan Board of Trustees welcomes any opportunity to improve library services in the state of Michigan. With this in mind, the Board is interested in the recent announcement by Governor Engler to establish a new state Department of History, Arts and Culture, which may include the Library of Michigan. The Board looks forward to working with the Governor's office and the Legislature on this initiative.

At the same time, the Library of Michigan Board wishes to note that the Library has many accomplishments to point to in its eighteen-year association with the Legislature, including the new state library facility, technology improvements, and the numerous partnerships within the Michigan library community.

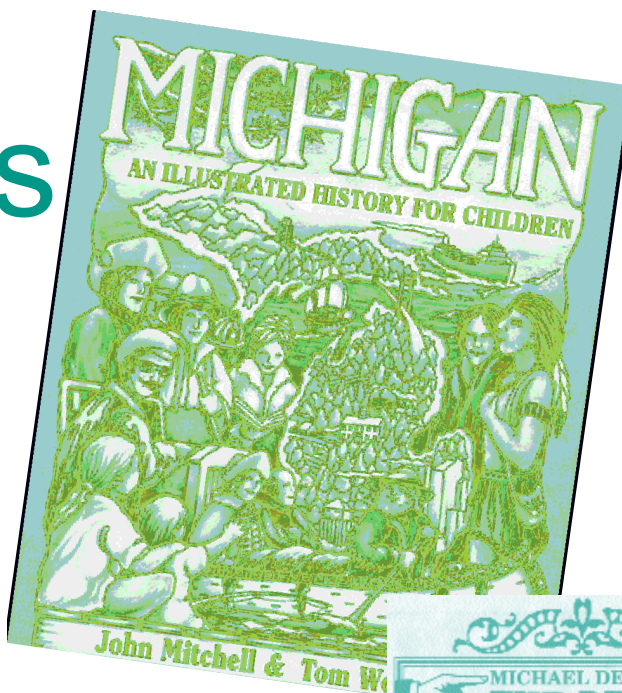
As various organizational relationships are considered, the Library of Michigan Board has identified the following as critical points:

- There should be an opportunity for the Library of Michigan to provide leadership and promote and advance library services for all types of libraries throughout the state.
- There should be a process that supports the non-partisan selection and leadership of a highly-qualified State Librarian.
- There should be a visible recognition of the role and value of libraries in the economic and educational well-being of the state and its communities.

As always, the Board welcomes any comments or suggestions from the library community.

# Michigan Legends and Lore

## Focus of 2001 Mahoney Children's Workshop



By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern

Everyone loves a good story, especially when it is rooted in fact. That's why the focus of the 2001 Mahoney Children's Workshop Series is on Michigan legends and lore. By using the songs and stories found in Michigan history, librarians and other professionals who work with children can use this topic in their reading and literacy programs. This year's workshops will be held on July 18 at the Library of Michigan in Lansing, August 15 at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey, and August 17 at the Peter White Library in Marquette.

The workshop series is sponsored by the Mahoney Memorial Fund of the Library of Michigan Foundation and the Library of Michigan. "The workshop will feature two guest presenters: performer Michael Deren and illustrator Tom Woodruff," says Foundation Executive Director Sarah D. Watkins.

Deren is the owner and operator of the Ann Arbor-based The Past in Person, a program that presents Michigan history through song and historical reenactment. At all three workshops, Deren will portray an 1870s Great Lakes schooner captain who will take participants on a musical tour of Michigan's inland seas. He also plays five other characters plucked out of Michigan history: a Michigan lumberjack/shanty boy in the 1870s; an 1840s canal boat captain; an 1865 Civil War musician; an 1870s railroad engineer; and a Northern Michigan Scottish iron worker of the 1880s.

Deren will also present *Me? Be a Tree? Let's See!*, which demonstrates how educators can use visual, aural, kinesthetic and tactile activities to enhance their learning.

Tom Woodruff has illustrated three children's history books: *Michigan: An Illustrated History for Children*; *Great Lakes and Great Ships*; and *Indians of the Great Lakes*. He just finished the illustrations for a fourth book, *Prehistoric Great Lakes*, and is currently writing and illustrating *Timber! Michigan's Lumber Era*. Woodruff will present his Great Lakes Illustration Workshop, discuss his books, and share his knowledge of the Great Lakes region. His program will demonstrate ways to use creative processes to explore Michigan's history, geography and natural resources.

A registration fee of \$35 includes the full-day conference, lunch and all materials. For more information, call 517-373-2977.



# What's a Trustee to Do?

By Suzanne Dees, Director  
Superiorland Library Cooperatives

Finance... human resource management... law... strategic planning... policy making... technology... public relations... advocacy... intellectual freedom... what's a trustee to do?



Mr. John H. Trustee has just agreed to serve on the Outstanding Public Library Board. Hoping that in a small way he can give something back to the library where he first learned to love reading and research, Mr. Trustee is thrown suddenly into a world of politics, funding crises, contract negotiations, building construction, and acronyms. In order to fulfill his promise to protect and improve his community's library, he needs the skills of a twenty-first century **Super Trustee**.

Fourteen super trustees on the LM Trustee Advisory Committee met in December 2000 at the Library of Michigan to recommend subject areas for a comprehensive trustee education program and to talk about how to impart the basic skills of trusteeship without forever dampening the volunteer spirit. "Knowledgeable trustees are fundamental to providing quality library service. They also are our most effective advocates," commented State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. She also told the committee that they should remember that trustees are volunteers who should be recognized for their contributions.

Trustees Lynne Bondy and Bob Lepsig have been working with Jo Budler, A. Michael Deller and Suzanne Dees to plan a program that will meet the Advisory Committee's criteria of three- to four-hour programs presented regularly in easy-to-reach locations. In 2001 the Library of Michigan will offer the first classes of a nine-part program that will be presented on regular one- to three-year schedules. A variety of delivery methods will be used, including PowerPoint "canned" programs that can be presented by local moderators, videotapes on current topics short enough to present at the end of board meetings, outlines that cooperatives can use to "localize" programs with relevant information and speakers, and statewide programs that use distance-learning technology.

Watch for these Library of Michigan programs:

"Serving Your Community as a Public Library Trustee: What Does a Trustee Do?"

"Michigan Law"

"Making Dollars and Sense of Library Financing for the Library Trustee"

"The Trustee's Role in Advocacy," based on the Southern Ontario Library Service model

"What Trustees Need to Know About Technology," a series that is described at the LM website at <http://www.libraryofmichigan.org/lmcoms/techseries.html>.

Michigan super trustees, as evidenced by the LM Trustee Advisory Committee, have a lot to tell their peers. Given the opportunity to network, trustees will share generously the practical lessons they have learned on the job. Ways to encourage board mentoring and ways to recognize and honor trustees will be explored by the Advisory Council. If you have suggestions, please contact Jo Budler, Deputy State Librarian, Library of Michigan, at 517-373-5507 (Lansing area) or 877-479-0021, or Suzanne Dees at 906-228-7697.

## New Video For Trustee Education

By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern

Looking for a way to improve the effectiveness of your library's board of trustees? The Library of Michigan has a new video available for loan that may help. *Leading the Way: Creating a Board That Works* is part of the Library Staff Development Series of videos created by the Urban Libraries Council.

The video uses three case studies to examine problematic issues faced by many boards. The first case demonstrates the importance of teamwork and of speaking with one voice. The second case takes a unique look at the relationship between a library board and its library's director. In the third case, viewers learn how to be effective in advocacy and what gets in the way.

The video is approximately 30 minutes long and is intended to be viewed by groups with time for discussion in between each case study. A helpful guide comes with the video and includes a facilitation outline, handouts for participants and questions for discussion.





## LSTA Library Specialist Joins LM

*By Gretchen Taylor, Public Information Intern*

Librarians across Michigan have a valuable new resource at the Library of Michigan: Library Specialist Sheryl Mase. A specialist on the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Universal Service Fund (USF), Mase will provide training and guidance in these areas to Michigan librarians and trustees.

Mase will help librarians take advantage of the funding and services available to public libraries through LSTA and USF. "I am accessible to librarians throughout the state and will be a resource for them," she said. "I want to demystify the grant-writing process and help librarians around the state obtain federal dollars to fund their projects."

After working as a library assistant on a bookmobile for the Ohio Valley Area Libraries, Mase decided to get a master degree in library science. The idea that knowledge is power is important to her. "There is an empowerment factor to public libraries," she said. "I like how they can level out the playing field for people who seek information." Mase received her AMLS degree in 1985 from the University of Michigan (U-M) School of Library Science. She also holds a bachelor of science degree from the U-M School of Natural Resources.

Before coming to the Library of Michigan, Mase served as the manager of corporate client services at EoExchange, Inc., a start-up Internet company in San Francisco. Between 1991 and 2000, Mase worked at the Kent District Library. She began as a cataloger and worked her way up to become the associate director of access and computer services. During her tenure at Kent District Library, Mase assisted in the formation of a computer services department, system-wide technology planning, the installation of networks and public access to the Internet, and led staff through a migration to a new integrated library system. She also was an integral member of the team that selected and installed a new automated system for the Lakeland Library Cooperative. Before she worked at Kent District Library, Mase was a public services librarian at Canton Public Library for five years. Mase began her duties at the Library of Michigan on February 20, 2001.

## SBPH\* at Barnes & Noble

*By Carey L. Draeger, Public Information Officer  
(With sincere apologies to Dr. Seuss)*

On Saturday, twas March the 3rd,  
Local children and grown-ups received the word—  
Go to Barnes & Noble and have some fun  
There you will meet the one  
And only cat who's quite natively dressed  
You know who he is and that he is the best.

Saturday was Read Across America Day  
On which we celebrate when Dr. Seuss first  
came our way.

It's his birthday, number 97 last we heard;  
For children's books, he's the final word!

Our involvement began with a telephone ring  
Barnes & Noble called to say they needed something.  
The bookstore asked SBPH\* if they happened to know  
Who knew sign language to interpret the kids' show.  
But for the old and young who could not see  
SBPH and H offered its own local celebrity.

Adaptive Technology Coordinator Scott Norris  
Brought books for the kids and something more-iss;  
He passed out to all some Braille bookmarks and cards.  
Kids could take them to school or in their back yard.

Even if they could not see,  
Braille books helped the kids to be  
good readers and leaders and students and so  
Scott Norris, of course, was the hit of the show!

He read the kids a book about feet  
He used the Braille version; oh, what a treat!  
The children just loved him; they did what he said  
And new ideas were born inside of their heads.

They took reading oaths and promised they would  
Become the best readers in town as really, they should!  
They sang Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss quite loudly  
As their family and parents listened quite proudly.

Barnes and Noble so enjoyed the results of this day  
That they invited Scott to return, said "Come back right away.  
When he returns, perhaps he will bring  
Books with stories of mean old grinchies that sing

Or tales of the red fish and blue fish,  
The one fish and two fish.  
He'll take the kids to visit Horton to hear a new who  
Perhaps they will dine on ham and a green egg or two.

Scott will bring back the feline with the funny big hat  
The Dr. Seuss favorite, crazy old cat!  
Thanks to the Library of Michigan and the SBPH\*  
Kids now know that Braille books are great!

*\*Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped located at the  
Library of Michigan*





# Kids Korner



By Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist

Last year, I visited a group of kindergartners, hoping to sign each of them up for their very own library card. I'm sure few really understood what I was talking about. All they knew was that there was a lady in their school library with big, colorful books, a puppet, and a large, stuffed dog named Max. The children sat—a few of them spellbound—as I read, sang, and performed. I knew that some would take their library card applications home to their parents and tell them about the library lady who told the best story they'd ever heard. Other children would lose their applications during the trip back to their classroom. But there's always one child who tugs at your heartstrings every time you think about him or her.

That day it was a little girl who seemed positively delighted and excited by my antics. I could see the happiness in her eyes the moment I started talking—she was hooked. She laughed, sang, and clapped along with me. She was the perfect audience. It didn't matter to her that I missed a line or allowed my singing voice to falter. She barely contained herself, wiggling around on the carpet where she sat with her classmates. When I finished, she nearly fell over from her enthusiastic clapping.

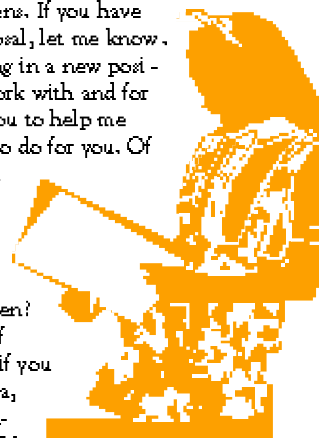
It was one of those moments that remind me daily why I choose to work with and for children. Breathlessly, she rushed up to me, put her hands on my knees and exclaimed "You were wonderful!" I felt my heart jump into my throat. I wanted to swoop her up, hoist her up on my shoulders and dance around the library singing and laughing. Maybe it's because I saw a bit of myself in her. I, too, was mesmerized by librarians. I still am. Who else can do so much so often with so little? One story, one encounter, even a puppet on a popsicle stick, profoundly affects a child. He or she may remember it thirty years later when his or her own children jump with joy on the way to library storytime or become so connected to a book they can't go to bed until they've read it at least three times.

Instead of picking that little girl up, I handed her a bookmark shaped like a cat. I said "Just for you," and she knew what I meant. She quickly tucked it away in her jacket, smiled knowingly at me, and ran to join her class. I gathered my things, fighting back tears from an encounter I knew I'd always remember. As I walked out of the library, I saw that little girl hold her bookmark straight out in front of her and beam with absolute joy at a gift all her own. I knew my simple act of kindness changed her life.

Everyone who works with children has similar stories. We share these tales with each other, laughing or struggling not to cry. It is one of the great benefits of working for children. You probably all know what I mean. I bet some of you are thinking right now of the boys and girls whose lives you've affected. For that you deserve profound gratification and thanks. It's not an easy life, working for children. Oftentimes, it seems you are the only one out there interested in doing it.

As the new youth services specialist at the Library of Michigan I want to support you in your work with children and teens. If you have an idea, a concern, a proposal, let me know. One of the benefits of being in a new position is that the people I work with and for will form my job. I want you to help me define what you want me to do for you. Of course, I have ideas but I'll have a more profound effect if I can address your wants and needs. How may I help you continue to touch the lives of children?

Lansing area library staff should call 517-373-4457; if you are outside the Lansing area, please use the Library's toll-free number at 877-479-0021. You may also e-mail me at [ktardiff@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:ktardiff@libraryofmichigan.org). I look forward to working with all of you.



## A Literary Landmark for Detroit

By Karen Reish, Michigan Center for the Book

The University of Detroit Mercy is joining in the celebration of Detroit's tricentennial celebration to celebrate the life and works of a Detroit poet who also worked as a librarian in the McNichols Campus Library. The Friends of Libraries USA has honored the university's request to designate the campus library a Dudley Randall Literary Landmark. The event will take place on May 22, 2001 which is Culture and Education Day of Michigan Week.

Dudley Randall (1914-2000) was a significant contributor to the development of African-American literature published during the second half of the twentieth century. He published his first poem in the *Detroit Free Press* in 1927 at the age of thirteen.

According to a *Detroit Free Press* article about Randall, Broadside Press was founded after Randall wrote and published "The Ballad of Birmingham," on a broadside sheet, calling it a Broadside Press publication, to protect his copyright. The work was the foundation for Randall's Detroit-based Broadside Press, which published 90 titles of poetry from 1965 to 1977 and had 500,000 books in print. Many well-known African-American writers were encouraged and published by Broadside Press, including Gwendolyn Brooks, Alice Walker, Nikki Giovanni, and award-winning playwright Ron Milner.

Randall joined the University of Detroit in 1969 as a reference librarian. He also served as the university's poet-in-residence. In his honor, the Dudley Randall Poet-in-Residence Award was established in 1971 and is still an annual event as the Dudley Randall Poetry Contest. Randall retired from the university in 1976. In 1981 Randall became Detroit's poet laureate after Mayor Coleman Young read his poem, "Detroit Renaissance" in *Corridors* magazine.

Randall worked as a postal employee while he earned a bachelor degree in English from Wayne State University in 1949 and a master of library science from the University of Michigan in 1951. He died on August 5, 2000, of congestive heart failure at the age of 86.

Please contact the McNichols Campus Library for further information at 313-993-1090.

# Guest Editorial

## Creating A Successful Author Program

*By Richard Schneider, Library Manager  
Traverse Area District Library*

A successful author program can be created with careful organization, if it includes the right people and a bit of serendipity. The Traverse Area District Library staff wanted to start an author series for two reasons: we had a new library with a room that is perfect for presentations, and we wanted to spotlight well-known local and national authors.

Our program was successful because we planned ahead for the series and included key local people. We started with the Friends of the Library. We decided the series would be a Friends event and the library would pay for and promote it. We were willing to take the initial risks but wanted the Friends to get the credit for its success.

Library staff, a member from the Friends, personnel from our local independent bookstore, and a creative writing instructor from the Interlochen Arts Academy made up the planning committee. We later discovered that Northwestern Michigan College, the local community college, was sponsoring a one-day workshop for writers; they planned their day so that one of the authors could speak at the library. The network of community people quickly grew as everyone shared ideas and resources.

Our fall series debuted with three authors. The first was Jerry Dennis, a well-known local author and a frequent patron at the library. He drew a large crowd of about 100 people. It was standing room only! The next two writers showcased were Stephen Dunn and Charles Baxter, whom we shared with the Interlochen Arts Academy. Baxter was on his way to New York City the week after he spoke at our library to attend the 2000 National Book Awards as a nominee in fiction.

The author series budget allowed \$500 to \$1,000 per author for honoraria, plus any other expenses as needed. The fall series authors incurred honoraria costs only, so we spent a total of \$1,500. Dunn and Baxter drew respectable crowds (about 30 people each), and we noticed a regular core of local followers who enjoyed the events.

Once our fall schedule was complete, we worked on the spring series, which we called "Live at the Library," after the American Library Association (ALA) promotion. It helped that we had a librarian on staff who regularly attended the ALA meetings. She began to network with publishers and learned which authors they were promoting to which libraries. At the ALA meetings it became essential to attend the authors' talks and meet them at the publishers' booths. These people can be an invaluable resource.

The 2001 spring series will feature five authors and a bigger budget. The authors include Tom Grace from Ann Arbor; Gloria Whelan, a local author and 2000 National Book winner for *Homeless Bird*; Franzy Billingsley, a children's writer from Chicago; Heidi Johnson, a local writer; and Lorna Landvik, a romance novelist from Minneapolis.

As we made arrangements for these writers, one of our librarians submitted two grants to defray the estimated \$4,000 cost of the spring series. We received a total of \$3,500 from the American Library Association and the Traverse Area Arts Council. All the events will be free of charge to the public.

The Friends have proved supportive and helpful at every event. They are able to promote their membership as part of the series. We are happy to see the growing enthusiasm in our community for this series. The library staff are always excited to hear about authors and their writing. Best of all, authors are starting to contact us to tell us in advance about their new books. We also encourage reading clubs to include books from our authors, and many have done so.

Traverse City is a well-known summer resort area, so we hope to hold one large event during the summer months to reach a larger audience. We'll attempt to obtain a nationally known author who might enjoy visiting beautiful northern Michigan. We'll have to pay more, but we'll also consider charging a fee for the event.

Our series has been successful for many reasons. It allowed us to create new and mutually beneficial relationships in our community with the local bookstore, arts academy and community college. People from around the region are beginning to attend. The audiences may not be as large as we originally hoped, but they're enthusiastic. The authors enjoyed the events, too. The authors series has also provided fantastic public relations opportunities for both the library and our Friends. We began with an idea, put it together with good planning and local participation and broke even financially. As a library, we wanted to offer something of quality to our community. We did not let cost stop us and it has paid off handsomely.

For more information about the Traverse Area District Library's authors' series, please contact Richard Schneider at 231-932-8527 or you may email him at [richards@tadnet.org](mailto:richards@tadnet.org).

## Michigan Goes the Extra Mile

*By Christine Lind Hage, Director  
Clinton-Macomb Public Library*

Libraries in southeast Michigan received an LSTA subgrant from the Library of Michigan through the Oakland, Wayne, Washtenaw, Livingston and St. Clair (OWLS) Region of Cooperation. The grant will create a network that provides a one-stop information source for library customers in all types of libraries. The Michigan Library Exchange (MILE) offers a holistic approach to library information services with delivery mechanisms that break down traditional barriers created by residency. Organizers hope that this project will become a statewide model to link all of Michigan's library collections.

Using Z39.50 and SIP/NCIP protocols for communication between library systems MILE will:

- empower library users with a faster, more efficient way to access holdings and available information on regional library holdings via a web interface;
- permit patron-initiated interlibrary loans; and
- provide faster delivery of requested materials (monographs and serials) to patrons.

Michigan currently uses a traditional interlibrary loan system, which is based on library staff placement, retrieval and delivery. Often staff time to handle interlibrary loans is the major expense in the process. MILE will move to a model that reduces staff involvement, shrinks ILL costs and speeds up the delivery of loaned materials.

A 1998 Association of Research Libraries (ARL) study identified common elements in libraries with high interlibrary loan performance and low cost:

- user-initiated ordering;
- maximum use of technology; and
- electronic and courier delivery systems.

These three principles will become the foundation for MILE.

"Improving service, increasing efficiency and lowering costs are major undertakings in any project. But in this case the project will be made easier by the many 'building blocks' already in place," said MILE Steering Committee Chair Louise Bugg.

OWLS Grant Administrator Eileen Palmer said, "Software is now available that builds on the three technologies necessary to achieve our vision: Z39.50, the NISO ILL protocol and the Circulation Interface protocol (CIP II). The plan is to use all of these standards to provide seamless interoperability among the databases of The Library Network, the OWLS Region of Cooperation,

the Suburban Library Cooperative, the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET) and the other members of the region of cooperation." The project will use third-party software to provide patron authentication, and integration of ILL requests with local library systems.

MILE participants expect to select third-party software by May 12, 2001, test it by October 31, 2001, and implement it by December 3, 2001. "This is an extremely ambitious schedule," said Bugg, "but we have 50 dedicated librarians serving on the steering or subcommittees to bring this project about."

"The Library of Michigan is interested in the outcome," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "The Library constantly seeks new methods to improve library services to all residents of Michigan; MILE may be the next step in that journey."

For more information, please contact Louise Bugg at 313-577-4058 or Eileen Palmer at The Library Network at 734-281-3830, ext. 107.

## e is for ebook:

### *A Library Service Mystery*

*by Sharon Campbell, Michigan Library Association*

The MLA Reference section cordially invites you to an ebook workshop on Friday, May 18, 2001, at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing. This event will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude at 3:45 P.M. This workshop will include practical information on circulating portable ebook devices as well as using netLibrary's shared e-book collection. With the recent addition of netLibrary to AccessMichigan, you might have a special interest in finding out more about the use of netLibrary from academic and public librarians who have experience with that resource. You'll hear first-hand reports about using ebooks in libraries and get lots of great handouts!

For more information please contact MLA at 6810 S. Cedar, Suite 6, Lansing, MI 48911, 517-694-6615 or visit the website at <http://www.mla.lib.mi.us>.



# Libraries Without Walls 2001

By Sonya Schryer, SBPH Machine Services Clerk

Join the Library of Michigan Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped (SBPH) at its Libraries Without Walls 2001 vendor fairs. This year two Adaptive Technology and Low Vision Aids Vendor Fairs will be held in Michigan during the month of May. Both fairs will feature low-vision aids, magnifiers and other low-tech items that will help visually and physically impaired individuals in their daily lives. The fairs provide opportunities for people to try out new high-tech equipment that lets them access the Internet and other electronic resources or scan print materials. Folks can meet people from agencies and organizations from their local areas who provide assistance to people with low vision.

The Kent District Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH), Muskegon County LBPH, Grand Traverse Area LBPH and the Library of Michigan SBPH will host the first event on May 8, 2001, at the Eberhard Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan, from 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

The Mideastern Michigan Talking Book Center, St. Clair County Special Technologies Alternative Resource (STAR) and the Library of Michigan SBPH will host the second event on May 10, 2001, at the McMoran Place, Port Huron, Michigan, from 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

There is no cost to attend this event. This project is funded with a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Library of Michigan.

For more information contact Scott Norris, adaptive technology coordinator at 517-373-5516 or 1-800-992-9012 or you may email him at [sscoun@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:sscoun@libraryofmichigan.org).

## Microfilm Rooms to Close Temporarily

The Library of Michigan will conduct a major shift of its microfilm collections, due to the installation of new microfilm cabinets. The work began on April 4 and temporarily halted inter-library loans of Michigan newspaper films to other libraries.

According to Randy Riley, special collections supervisor, "If all goes well, we will resume interlibrary loan of these materials in early May." The LM staff will pack up the more than 80,000 microfilm reels, store them while the new cabinets are installed, and then unpack and reshelve the reels.

The schedule for this project will be:

Newspaper Microfilms:	4 April - 5 May 2001
Periodical Microfilms:	7 May - 12 May 2001
Genealogy Microfilms:	13 May - 25 May 2001

## Great Lakes, Great Libraries, Great Expectations!

Aline Soules, Publicity Chair  
Michigan Library Association

Great Lakes, Great Libraries, Great Expectations! is this year's theme for the Michigan Library Association's Annual Conference, which will be held in downtown Lansing on November 6 - 9, 2001. Come and meet with authors, experts, and each other at this annual event. You'll learn more details with each new issue of the *Michigan Librarian*, but you can also count on your old favorites. Expect great programs, great exhibits, and great fun at the MLA Annual Conference!

If you have suggestions or ideas, please send them to one of the MLA conference committee chairs. We're making plans now, so don't be shy—give us your great ideas! We'd enjoy hearing from you:

Conference chair: Sandy Yee, [sandra.yee@umich.edu](mailto:sandra.yee@umich.edu)

Program committee chair: Ruth Dukelow,  
[dukelow@mla.lib.mi.us](mailto:dukelow@mla.lib.mi.us)

Pre-conference: Elaine Harrison,  
[emharris@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:emharris@libraryofmichigan.org)

Site/local arrangements: Sue Hill, [bills@cadl.org](mailto:bills@cadl.org)

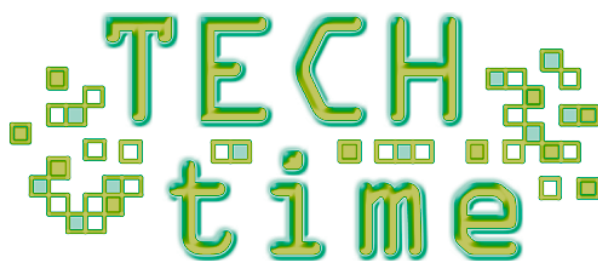
Special events/meals/receptions: Nancy Bujold,  
[bujoldn@cadl.org](mailto:bujoldn@cadl.org)

Exhibits: Jule Fosbender, [jfosbend@monroe.lib.mi.us](mailto:jfosbend@monroe.lib.mi.us)

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Auction ideas and contributions: Margaret A. Pavelka,  
[mpavelka@mla.lib.mi.us](mailto:mpavelka@mla.lib.mi.us)



## Report from the Department of Cool Tools

*By Paul Groll*

This year many sites are upgrading servers, from various older technologies to Windows 2000. There can be a number of headaches in the process, but one of the most painful to the budget is the “orphaning” of existing external peripherals like SCSI tape drives.

Help is here in the form of a new connection device from Adaptec, the USBXchange. This device installs in Windows 2000 (or 98SE, ME) as a plug-and-play USB controller. One end plugs into the external USB port on your system, and the other is—as you guessed it—an SCSI connector.

Up to seven external SCSI devices can be chained from this connection. This can breathe new life into a wide array of older SCSI peripherals, such as tape drives, scanners, and a variety of other drives: hard drives, Zip, CDROM, CDRW, DVD, etc. While not all of these will thrill your servers, they will make your laptop users very happy.

At this writing, the Adaptec USBXchange sells for around \$78.

### Five minute storage expansion

Is your server struggling with too much data? Are your drives full or filling up too fast? Deliverance may be only five minutes away.

A number of vendors recently jumped into the network storage market with various and sundry network-attached storage (NAS) devices. A NAS device

adds disk-drive storage space for use by your server or users without opening the server. Models vary by vendor, but all are built around a similar core technology: one or more disk drives in a self-contained housing and an Ethernet port. Most run a version of control software based on Linux, and provide a network or web-based administration system.

Installing the system involves only a few simple steps. Plug in the Ethernet, plug in the power, and install the administrative software on a server or host PC, assign the device an IP address, and you're almost done. The new drive space can be mapped as a drive letter on the server; many units allow the creation of individual user accounts right on the NAS box.

Separation and security of files, users, groups, or data can be maintained the same as on your server drives. At the Library of Michigan, we have installed and experimented with five different models from four different vendors. These range from a Windows-only 8GB unit to a Solaris/Windows 300GB-monster with a built-in httpd server, for serving files directly to the web with no other server intervention. Across the board, we were impressed by the simplicity, utility, and value-per-cost of all these units.

If you are considering an expansion of network storage, don't hesitate to call and chat with us about your needs. We'll be happy to share what we've learned. Better yet, stop in for a tour and we'll be glad to polish them up and show them off.

To contact the Library of Michigan Network and Information Systems Division, call the Help Desk at 517-373-2549 or email Paul Groll at [groll@library-ofmichigan.org](mailto:groll@library-ofmichigan.org).

The Alpena County Friends of the Library have spent the better part of two years helping to raise funds for a building campaign to construct a new addition. Director Judi Stillion was presented with a \$14,000 check to get the ball rolling from the past and incoming presidents. The addition will add 6,000 additional square feet to the facility.

**F**amily Tree Magazine at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com> chose the Library of Michigan's Michigan 1870 Census Index at [http://envoy.libraryofmichigan.org/1870\\_census/](http://envoy.libraryofmichigan.org/1870_census/) as its Site of the Day on March 15, 2001. The magazine staff felt it "will be a wonderful online resource for our readers." According to Associate Editor Susan Wenner, "Family Tree Magazine is a new magazine that helps people discover, preserve and celebrate their family's history. Though our magazine's website has only been online since October 1999, 130,000 people are visiting each month, and more are coming each day. We hope our site's visitors will check out the Michigan 1870 Census Index when it's highlighted on our home page." The Michigan 1870 Census Index will also be mentioned in the magazine's weekly email newsletter and indexed in their Select Site Resource Guide at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/categories.asp> (look for the Michigan 1870 Census Index under the Census category).

**F**or the seventh consecutive year the Mason County District Library has received an anonymous donation from an area resident. The latest donation brings the total number of his gifts to over \$400,000. The donor has requested that the funds be used for building improvements at the library's Scottville branch. Two years ago, the library completed the first part of a three-phase expansion program. The staff and the library board are now planning the second phase, which will nearly double

**T**he Many Realms of King Arthur, a traveling exhibition organized by the American Library Association, arrived at Alpena County Library for a month long visit. The exhibit traces the development of the Arthurian legends from their origins in the Middle Ages to their latest adaptations in the twentieth century. It demonstrates the various forms in which the story has been told: poetry, drama, prose, opera, popular song, musical theater, film, dance, novels, children's literature, comics and video games. The library also played host to a variety of related events and activities. Demonstrations, music and magic were featured at an open house attended by over 350 people. Crowds flocked to see book reviews about the Arthurian legends, movies, lectures on herbs, the legends and lore of the period, overviews of all the films that deal with that era done by the inimitable Richard Douglass, chess and checkers tournaments, kids crafts, fashion shows and sword fighting.

**O**n Monday, January 8, 2001, the Geneva Prairie Branch opened for business in the Edward Lowe Center for the Council on Aging. Affectionately dubbed "The Twig" due to its size, Geneva Prairie houses three public computers (two are from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), audio books, videos and fiction and non-fiction books. The most popular services are the introductory computer classes for Windows and the Internet. The senior patrons are most appreciative of their "one-stop" facility. They can take a ceramics or aerobics class in the morning, have lunch, take a computer class, and then check out a book to take home with them, all in one building!

In February, the new Cass District Library Howard Branch opened at 2341 Yankee Street, Niles. After surviving a plethora of locations—the township hall basement, an RV and construction trailer in the school parking lot, and the former township police department, the branch received a permanent home in a former church. The new facility will enable the library to expand its services by providing more space for materials, children's activities and adult programs. The library has provided service to Howard Township since 1963.

If you have a new item you would like to contribute, please contact Carey Draeger at 517-373-5578 or email her at [cdraeger@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:cdraeger@libraryofmichigan.org).

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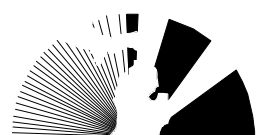
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